

Table 1: Egg measurements of *Brogghammerus reticulatus*

Batch No.	Egg layed	Clutch size	Average length (cm)	Average width (cm)	Average weight (gm)	Incubation period (days)
1	02.iv.2010	5	10.6	6.3	210	72

Out of five eggs, only two hatched; both the hatchlings were marked. Their average total body length (head to tail) was 70 cm and weight 39 gm. The growth of body length of hatchlings varied between individuals. The growth of the two hatchlings was measured: hatchling number 1 and 2, on 20.vi.2010 (80 cm, 60 cm), 10.x.2010 (84 cm, 71 cm), 10.xi.2010 (86 cm, 72 cm), respectively.

During the present study, mating was observed from December to January, which indicates that the temperature influences the reproductive activity of this species. The observed period of mating was similar to *Python molurus* (Ross and Marzec 1990). The gestation period of 81 days was more than *Python molurus* (Dattatri 1990; Ross and Marzec 1990). The variation in weight and size of hatchlings may be due to varying temperatures during the incubation period. According to Vineger (1973), temperature not only

affects metabolic activity in ectothermic animals, but also plays a vital role in the development of embryos. The captive management of Reticulated Python emphasizes that if certain basic parameters and individual care are provided to the species breeding can be successful.

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5. NEW RECORD OF TWO SPECIES OF EELS OF THE GENUS *GYMNOTHORAX* (MURAENIDAE) IN DIGHA COAST OF INDIA

PRASANNA YENNAWAR^{1,2}, PRASAD TUDU^{1,3} AND ANIL MOHAPATRA^{1,4}

¹Marine Aquarium & Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India, Digha 721 428, West Bengal, India.

²Email: yprasanna@rocketmail.com

³Email: pc2du@hotmail.com

⁴Email: anil2k7@gmail.com

Marine eels of the family Muraenidae are a large group in the Indian waters. There are reports of 35 species under eight genera belonging to Family Muraenidae reported in Indian waters. Out of this, 22 species belong to the Genus *Gymnothorax*. So far, only three species have been recorded in the coastal area of Digha (Chatterjee *et al.* 2000). Several efforts were made to inventory marine and estuarine fishes of

Digha (Manna and Goswami 1985; Goswami 1992; Talwar *et al.* 1992). Consistent efforts were also made by the Marine Aquarium & Regional Centre, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Digha, to update this data by adding recent occurrences. Being the largest public aquarium of the ZSI, efforts are being taken to maintain the diversity of tank exhibits. During the collection of live fishes for exhibition, the authors encountered

two more species belonging to the Genus *Gymnothorax* around Digha coastal waters; *G. favagineus* and *G. javanicus*. Both the specimens were collected live around Digha coast and displayed in the aquarium.

Classification

Class: Actinopterygii
Order: Anguilliformes
Family: Muraenidae
Genus: *Gymnothorax*

Gymnothorax favagineus Bloch & Schneider 1801

Enchelycore favagineus (Bloch & Schneider 1801). *Systema Ichthyologiae*: i-lx + 1-584, Pls. 1.

Material examined: 2 ex, TL 65-71 cm, Locality: 1 ex Digha, 12.xii.1996, Coll: T.K. Chatterjee & Party, Reg. No. 30, 1 ex Kirtaniya, 24.vii.2009, Reg No. 579.

Diagnostic characters: Body elongate, snake-like, stout; pale brown to yellow colour with closely set numerous large round black blotches; pattern continuous to the edges of the mouth.

Common Names: *Gymnothorax favagineus* is commonly known as the Black-spotted Moray, Honeycomb Moray, Coral Eel, Giraffe Eel (Australia), Honeycomb Moray (Indonesia, SA, USA).

Distribution: Indo-Pacific: Red Sea and East Africa to Papua New Guinea, north to southern Japan, Taiwan, south to Australia. From Indian waters the species is reported only from Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Rao 2003).

Gymnothorax javanicus (Bleeker 1859)

Muraena javanica Bleeker, 1859. *Natuurkundig Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsch Indië* v. 19: 329-352.

Gymnothorax javanicus (Bleeker, 1859). *Natuurkundig Tijdschrift voor Nederlandsch Indië* v. 19: 329-352.

Material examined: 1 ex, TL c. 65 cm, Digha, 18.viii.2007, Coll.: Prasanna Yennawar & P. Tudu, Reg No. 522.

Diagnostic characters: Body elongated, snake-like. Eye nearer to the tip of the snout than to the corner of the mouth; Dorsal fin moderately high, its origin on rear of head about equidistant between rectus muscle and gill opening; black specks that grade into leopard-like spots behind the head and a black area surrounding the gill opening.

Common Names: *Gymnothorax javanicus* (Bleeker 1859) is commonly known as Giant Moray, Tropical Moray Eel (USA), Blackpearl Moray (Australia), Java Moray Eel (Papua New Guinea).

Distribution: Indo-Pacific: Red Sea and East Africa to the Marquesas and Oeno Atoll (Pitcairn Group), north to the Ryukyu and Hawaiian islands, south to New Caledonia and the Austral Islands. From Indian waters the species is reported from Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Devi and Rao 2003; Rao 2003).

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6. NOTE ON AN ADDITIONAL LOCALITY FOR *CROCE FILIPPENSIS* WESTWOOD, 1841 (NEUROPTERA: NEMOPTERIDAE)

RAHUL KHOT^{1,2} AND VINOD PATIL^{1,3}

¹Bombay Natural History Society, Hornbill House, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai 400 001, Maharashtra, India.

²Email: rahul.bhns@gmail.com

³Email: vinodpatil72@rediffmail.com

Globally, the family Nemopteridae is represented by 41 genera and about 150 species (Oswald 2007a). Of these,

only four genera and six species are reported from India (Ghosh 1998). Though *Croce filippensis* seems to be an